owners in Vellore, Gudiyatham and Vaniambadi formed themselves into an association and forced other beedi factory owners to adopt the branch system with a view to evading the provisions of the Factories Act? May I know whether the Government will take steps to see that such torpedoing of the provisions of the Act is prevented?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The hon. Member may put a separate question.

SRI M. PALANIYANDI : பீடித் தொழிலில் கணிசமான அளவுக்கு தொழிலாளர்கள் வேலைக்கு நியமிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். பீடித் தொழிலாளர்களுடைய ஊதிய நிலைமையைப் பரிசீலித்து சர்க்காரிடம் ரிபோர்ட்டு சமர்ப்பித்திருப்பதாகச் சொல்லப்படுகிறது. குறைந்தபட்ச ஊதிய (மாகாண) போர்டிலேகூட அவர்களுக்கு ஊதியம் நிர்ணயிப்பதில் சட்ட சம்பந்தமாக சிரமம் இருப்பதாகத் தெரிவதால், மேற்கண்ட ரிபோர்ட்டை வெளியிடுவதற்கும், பீடித் தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு நல்லதொரு சம்பள விகிதத்தை நிர்ணயிப்பதற்கும் அரசாங்கம் சட்டம் கொண்டுவருவதற்கு மந்திரி அவர்கள் முடிவு செய்வார்களா ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : இதுபற்றி முடிவான நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொள்வதில் தவிர்க்கக்கூடிய தாமதம் ஒன்றும் இராது என்று கனம் அங்கத்தினருக்கு தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கிறேன்.

*Establishment of industrial estates*

* 136 *Q*.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any industrial estates have been established in the State for stimulating the growth of small industries; and

(*b*) the amount allotted for the same?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) The Government are taking steps to establish Industrial Estates at Guindy and Virudhunagar and Small Industrial Estates at Palghat and Erode to stimulate the growth of small industries.

(*b*) The estimated expenditure on account of the establishment of these estates is as follows :—

| | RS. |
|---|---|
| Industrial Estate, Guindy ... ... ... | 51,40,461 |
| Industrial Estate, Virudhunagar ... ... | 21,23,068 |
| Industrial Colony, Palghat ... ... ... | 11,36,009 |
| Industrial Colony, Erode ... ... ... | 6,89,589 |

The Government of India have agreed to sanction the entire amount as a loan to this Government.

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : May I know whether these industrial estates have been set up and whether they are functioning?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : All preliminary steps have been taken to establish these industrial estates. I may tell the hon. Member that no industrial estate has yet started functioning.

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SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : May I know whether tin-making industry is also included among the small-scale industries which are included in the industrial estate schemes in Palghat? May I also know whether the Government have received any special representation from one Mr. Haneefa, Municipal Councillor, Palghat Municipality, in that connexion?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I may tell the hon. Member that there will be no difficulty in getting the tin-making industry covered under the industrial estate schemes in Palghat.

*Exploratory work re artesian springs*

* 137 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether any exploratory work has been conducted during the year 1956 to locate artesian springs in the districts? 9–50 a.m.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : No, Sir.

*Conditions of sweet toddy-tappers*

* 138 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the conditions of sweet-toddy tappers under the Second Five-Year Plan?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : Under the Second Five-Year Plan, the following steps are proposed to be taken for improving the conditions of ex-toddy tappers in the State under the Palm Gur Development Scheme :—

(*a*) Increasing production of palm gur.

(*b*) Adoption of improved methods of manufacture of palm jaggery by supply of palm gur sets.

(*c*) Granting subsidies to the neera parlours.

(*d*) Encouraging the production of palatable products by giving subsidies to deserving societies for the purchase of confectionery equipment.

(*e*) Undertaking propaganda for the development of Palm Gur Industry by supply of the journal " Tad Gud Samachar " at half cost.

(*f*) Encouraging other allied industries among the ex-tapper.

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Sir, since jaggery is sold in the market at a very low price; all these measures will not help the tappers. Will the Government consider other alternative methods, such as distributing land to the tappers.

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : Sir, that is a common policy pursued by the Government in respect of those people who are in need of land, but this is a separate question altogether.